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PERS: Szule, Tad

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O.A.S. STATES SIGN CUBAN SANCTIONS

U.S. Hails Action as 'Body Blow' to Castro Regime

By TAD SZULO

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WASHINGTON, July 26 — Foreign ministers of 20 American nations formally signed today resolutions for mandatory sanctions against Cuba and for strengthening defenses against Cuban subversion.

This act closed the Organization of American States conference, which Secretary of State Dean Rusk called "the most important ever held in this hemisphere."

The resolutions were approved about 1 A.M. after more than 14 hours of negotiations. The ministers then returned just before noon to the Pan American Union building for the signing ceremony.

Four countries — Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay and Mexico — voted against the main resolution on the "application of measures to the present Government of Cuba." There were strong indications, however, that Bolivia, Chile and Uruguay would comply before long with the sanctions measure.

Aggression Charge Upheld

All 20 nations represented at the conference signed the resolutions. It is traditional at such inter-American conferences that all participants sign the document finally approved, despite the positions taken in debate.

The sanctions were invoked against Cuba as a result of the conference's finding that she committed aggression against Venezuela last year by smuggling arms to pro-Communist guerrillas and terrorists. They prescribe that the signatory states will not maintain diplomatic and consular relations with Havana, and that trade and maritime transportation will be suspended.

The resolution does not call for a "break" in relations, as originally proposed. It declares simply that the American states will "not maintain" such ties. This, together with other efforts at conciliation at the conference, was designed to give opponents of the sanctions a maximum of flexibility in carrying them out.

Mr. Rusk, speaking on the American Broadcasting Company television program "Issues and Answers," a few hours after the signing ceremony, said that "Castro has no future in Cuba or this hemisphere." He said this was evident from the "vigor and great clarity" of the ministerial action.

The Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, Thomas C. Mann, said in a statement that the conference was "a victory for the inter-American system" and a "body blow" to Premier Fidel Castro.

"It proved once again the ability of the Organization of American States to defend itself against aggression," he declared.

The four countries that opposed the sanctions are the only ones in Latin American that still have diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Bolivia announced late last night that she would abide by the sanctions, and it was expected that she would break with Havana after the inauguration of President Victor Paz Estenssoro Aug. 6 for his new term.

Diplomats believed that President Jorge Alessandri Rodriguez of Chile would order a break in relations before the presidential elections Sept. 4. Though Chile forcefully opposed the sanctions, the Alessandri Government feels that, as a member of the inter-American security system, Chile has no choice but to abide by the majority decision.

Little Practical Impact

It was thought that Uruguay would probably follow suit.

United States officials felt that the 15-to-4 vote constituted a "meaningful" majority for the resolutions.

The required two-thirds majority was 13 votes, but only 19 of the 20 nations meeting could vote. Venezuela, as the nation that brought the complaint, was ineligible. She charged that Cuba smuggled three tons of arms into Venezuela last fall.

The sanctions, of themselves, were expected to have little practical impact on Cuba. For example, the bulk of Latin American trade with Cuba is in foodstuffs, which are not covered by the trade ban.

The interest of the majority was to score a political point and to reinforce antisubversion defenses.

In the strongest measure it had ever applied to Cuba, the O.A.S. "emphatically" condemned the Castro regime for aggression against Venezuela and warned that new subversive acts anywhere in the Americas would be met with individual or collective deterrents, "which could go as far as resort to armed force."

Having first defined the Cuban interference in Venezuela as an act of aggression, "which affects all of the states," the resolution set a precedent that could be applied in the future.

In stating that Cuba's persistence in aggressive acts would grant the American states the right of "self-defense in either individual or collective form" until the O.A.S. could move to restore peace, the resolution set the stage for prompt deterrent action.